

REMARKS

I. INTRODUCTION

Claims 1-121 have been cancelled, without prejudice, and claims 122-137 have been amended. Accordingly, claims 122-143 are now under consideration in the above-identified application. Provided above, please find a claim listing indicating the current cancellation to claims 1-121 and the current amendments to claims 122-143 so as to comply with the requirements set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.121. Applicants reserve the right to pursue patentability of these cancelled claims and/or other claims in any continuing application claiming priority from the above-identified application, and any application for which this application claims priority. It is respectfully submitted that no new matter has been added.

II. RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

In the Office Action, the Examiner alleges that certain inventions or groups of inventions which are not so linked as to form a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule §13.1. For such reason, the Examiner requires Applicants to elect one of the following groups:

- Group I: Claims 1-72 and 110-121 are drawn to a method and apparatus for reducing regurgitation of valve of a heart and method of reversing cardiac remodeling;
- Group II: Claims 73-109 are drawn to a method and apparatus for reversing cardiac remodeling; and
- Group III: Claims 122-143 are drawn to methods for reversing cardiac remodeling and method for reducing regurgitation of a heart valve.

As indicated above, originally-filed claims 1-121 have been cancelled above without prejudice, and claims 122-143 have been amended. Thus, only claims 122-143 (Group III) remain in the application. Accordingly, it is respectfully asserted that the above-described Restriction Requirement is now moot, and should therefore be withdrawn.

III. CONCLUSION

Applicants assert that the pending claims are in condition for allowance. Prompt reconsideration and allowance of the present application are therefore earnestly solicited. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned to expedite the prosecution of this application if any issues remain outstanding.

Respectfully submitted,

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